

REMARKS

Claims 1-14, 17-81, 83 and 85-92 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-14, 17-81, 83 and 85-92 stand rejected.

Claims 1, 36, 55, 68, and 81 have been amended.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-14, 17-81, 83 and 85-92 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Khansari, et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,446,131 (Khansari) in view of Reiss, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0267945 (Reiss). After careful consideration of the remarks in the present Final Office Action, Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 1-14, 17-81, 83, and 85-92, as now amended, are not rendered unpatentable by the combination of Khansari and Reiss, in view of the arguments herein.

Regarding amended independent Claims 1, 36, 55, 68, and 81, and using independent Claim 1 as an example, nothing in the combination of Khansari and Reiss discloses (or renders obvious) “said DPM comprises a previous time interval field and a current time interval field”, as disclosed in independent Claim 1, among other limitations of Claim 1. Page 2 of the present Final Office Action states that col. 7, lines 38-45 of Khansari discloses the recited element.

Col, 7, lines 38-45 of Khansari discloses:

Reference is now made to FIG. 9. In the learning module (blocks 202 to 210), a duplicate frame could be identified by maintaining a data table for all of the previously received frames and comparing the new frame to the previously received frames. A fast approach, however, is to use a hash table based on the FCS 110 of the MAC frame 100. The hash table 58 is stored in memory 52 (see FIG. 5).

It appears that the hash table in the cited passage is posited by the present Final Office Action to disclose a DPM (a position which Applicants do not, in fact, concede). However,

nothing in the combination of Khansari and Reiss discloses (or renders obvious) "said DPM comprises a previous time interval field and a current time interval field". One with skill in the art would not expect the combination of Khansari and Reiss to disclose the recited elements because, as shown by reference number 58 in Figure 9 of Khansari, the hash table of Khansari includes only a single field. Also, there are no structures within Khansari's hash table that indicate the amount of time that has passed since a particular frame has been received. In fact, Khansari merely discloses in col. 7, line 64-col. 8, line 5:

Aging of each entry 64 in the hash table 58 is also performed. Aging could be performed by reducing each hash table entry 64 by a fractional value at a fixed time frequency. For example, when a new frame is received, a '1' is marked in its corresponding entry in the hash table 58. After every period, the hash table entry is reduced by a fractional value. After the aging time has expired, the corresponding hash table entry is reduced to '0', whereby the frame has been aged out.

Also, nothing in Reiss was posited by the present Final Office Action as to disclosing (or rendering obvious) the recited elements of independent Claim 1. Upon further reading of Reiss, nothing in Reiss discloses (or renders obvious) "said DPM comprises a previous time interval field and current time interval field," as received in independent Claim 1.

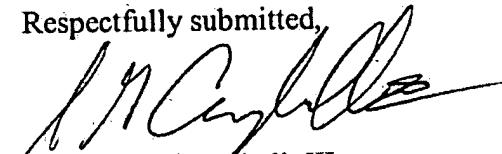
Hence, nothing in the cited passages of the combination of Khansari and Reiss discloses (or renders obvious) the recited element of independent Claim 1. The recited combination does not disclose (or render obvious) each and every element of independent Claim 1. Therefore, the combination of Khansari and Reiss does not render independent Claim 1, similar independent Claims 36, 55, 68, and 81, and all dependent claims unpatentable. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at 512-439-5084.

If any extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) are required in order for this submission to be considered timely, Applicant hereby petitions for such extensions. Applicant also hereby authorizes that any fees due for such extensions or any other fee associated with this submission, as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17, be charged to deposit account 502306.

Respectfully submitted,



Samuel G. Campbell, III

Attorney for Applicants

Reg. No. 42,381

Telephone: (512) 439-5084

Facsimile: (512) 439-5099